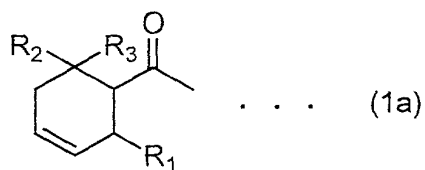


# ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An economical process for producing (2- and/or 1-)cyclohexenyl methyl ketones which are intermediates for the synthesis of  $\alpha$ - or  $\beta$ -damascone. In the presence of a catalyst, a 3-cyclohexenyl methyl ketone represented by the following formula (1a):



wherein, R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> each independently represents a hydrogen atom or a methyl group and at least two of R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> are methyl groups, is isomerized.